Agency Revision Team Meeting June 2-3, 1998

Elevated Issues

Water Use Efficiency

There is disagreement over the current program approach, which emphasizes incentives and markets more than a regulatory framework. (Penny Howard lead)

Water Transfers

- Should CALFED facilitate Cross-Delta water transfers? (Patrick Leonard lead)
- CALFED should determine whether water other than real water (i.e. water made available through conservation) can be transferred? (Carolyn Yale lead)
 - SWP and CVP operators are concerned that, without reservoir refill criteria, vacated storage space will be filled with water which would otherwise be available to the project. In the absence of the transfer, there would be more water in the system in the subsequent year to meet project obligations (contract deliveries, Delta outflow or water quality requirements). The transfer might also cause the reservoir refill to be delayed, with a possible impact on conditions in the Delta. (Kathy Kelly lead)
 - Generally there is no reliable capacity in CVP and SWP conveyance or pumping facilities for water transfers, in other than dry years. (Kathy Kelly lead)

Ecosystem Restoration

- The ERP does not adequately address the "ecosystem". It is too narrowly focused and should be expanded beyond the riparian corridor. (Patrick Leonard lead)
- Habitat restoration actions require significant agricultural land conversion, particularly in the Delta. Efforts to reduce and avoid impacts should be included at the Program and subsequently at the project level. Specific mitigation for agricultural impacts due to land conversion should also be included within the Program. (Robin Reynolds lead)

Levees

- Should the current configuration of the Delta be maintained, and under what constraints (at any cost?)? (Gary Stern lead)
- Some stakeholders feel that the Suisun Marsh levess should be included in the levee program. DFG feels they should be included in the Emergency Response element of the Program. (Frank Wernette lead)
- CALFED is not planning to address inter-island subsidence beyond those efforts for levee integrity and ecosystem restoration. (Frank Wernette lead)

Water Quality

- There is disagreement over whether CALFED should support completing the San Luis Drain and other out-of-valley discharge options. (Carolyn Yale lead)
- There is disagreement over whether the Program should included dilution oriented actions. (Carolyn Yale lead)

Watershed Management

There is disagreement over what constitutes an appropriate action in the upper watersheds in terms of nexus with the Bay-Delta. (Julie Tupper lead)

Implementation Planning

 There is a need to resolve issues related to CALFED structure and role including: organization size, staffing, responsibilities, oversight and budgetary support. (John Lowrie lead)